

**Joint Meeting of the Camden Budget Committee
and Camden Select Board
Minutes of Meeting
March 3, 2011**

Select Board Attendance: Chair Karen Grove, John French, Morgan Laidlaw and Town Manager Roberta Smith

Budget Committee Attendance: Matthew Lewis, Brian Gasser, Tom Massey, Meg Sideris, Peter Orne, Delisa Morong, Howard Jones, John Arnold, Randy Stearns, Kristin Bilfulco, Tom Filip, Kimberly Taliadourus, Anita Zeno, Frank Carr, James Heard, Bernard Predham, Ed Doudera, Ken Kohl, Sandy Cox, Rebecca Flanagan, and James Ostrowski

Absent: Select Board member Deborah Dodge and Budget Committee member Steve Durrell

Select Board Chair Grove called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

1. The members introduced themselves.
2. Manager Smith summarized the responsibilities of the Budget Committee for the newly elected members. The Budget Committee meets during the month of March to make recommendations and vote on the proposed budget prepared by the Town Manager. The recommendations of the Committee must be adopted by the Select Board in April. The recommendations of the Budget Committee and Select Board will be reflected in the town meeting warrant for the benefit of showing what has been recommended for voters for the Annual Town Meeting.
3. Review and discussion of Tax Rate and Spending Cap Information: Manager Smith reviewed with the Budget Committee the tax rate and spending cap information. She went over the LD1 and its effect on Camden's municipal spending limitations and she reviewed how she processes the budget to reach the goal of staying within the spending cap.
4. Presentation and general overview of FY12 Budget. Manager Smith reported this proposed FY12 Budget is for the Town of Camden's General Fund. This budget is for municipal services only and excludes assessments from Mid-Coast Solid Waste, Knox County, and the school districts. It also does not include the Town's business-type funds: Wastewater, Seabright Hydro, and the Camden Snow Bowl.

As in past years, the Select Board has set a goal that the proposed budget should be within the LD 1 spending cap provisions, and more particularly, this year expressed a need to catch up on capital investments which have been curtailed the past two years due to the economy. The Manager's proposed FY12 basic budget falls within the spending limitation. Considering an estimated tax base increase, the 2011-2012 proposed budget for municipal services is an estimated 3.7% increase in net property tax.

The budget includes summary revenue and expense pages along with line item budgets. Every effort has been made by all departments to document their requests and to be sensitive to the economic climate and the Select Board's goal of limiting the net budget

impact. There are decreases in many of the general categories of the budget which offset the proposed increases in capital investment.

She gave a brief overview of the highlights of the proposed FY12 Budget. She stated the Department Heads have worked cooperatively to help her present a budget that reflects both the current economy and the town's obligation to provide quality services. A general question and answer period followed her presentation.

5. Elect Chair & Vice-Chair for The Budget Committee:

James Heard made a motion to nominate Edward Doudera as Chairman of the Budget Committee. Anita Zeno seconded this motion. The motion passed on a 21-0-0 vote.

Edward Doudera nominated Tom Filip as Vice Chair of the Budget Committee. James Heard seconded this motion. The motion passed on a 21-0-0 vote.

Tom Filip made a motion to adopt Roberts Rules of order as the means to conduct the meeting and seconded by James Heard. The motion passed on a 21-0-0 vote.

At 7:50 p.m., a motion was moved and seconded to adjourn. The motion passed on a 21-0-0 vote.

Respectfully submitted,

Janice L. Esancy
Recording Secretary